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reply
2/19*

CECIL B. DEMILLE

Feb. 17/58

To J. Edgar Hoover

from

Cecil B. deMille

REC-93

62-46336-28

EX 103

FEB 20 1958

CRIMINAL DIV.

ENCLOSURE

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San Quentin, California

February 13, 1958

Mr. Cecil B. de Mille
Paramount Pictures, Inc.
5451 Marathon Boulevard
Hollywood 28, California

Dear Mr. de Mille:

It is difficult to be both brief and laudatory. And this I would like to be with this letter.

Brief, because the expression of appreciation is an old thing to you who have brought happiness and solid emotional experience to thousands; laudatory because the deep gratitude of over forty-two hundred men must be expressed through the cold medium of these words--this paper.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS will long be remembered at San Quentin Prison.

Perhaps the most vivid expression of the impact of this great motion picture achievement on the men of San Quentin can be found in these facts: The men sat on hard wooden benches, without an intermission, throughout the entire showing. A hushed and respectful silence prevailed. Some of the men, those who could manage it, returned for the second showing. This, I believe, is the most genuine compliment that could be paid.

The Motion Picture Industry has provided top-flight entertainment for San Quentin for many years. Never has their generosity been more appreciated, and noted, than now.

In the fittingly complete phraseology of your film, "So it was written. So it was done."

Simply, thank you.

Sincerely,

James R. Deacon
James R. Deacon
Chairman, Inmate Council

JRD/joh

APPROVED

R. Dickson
Warden

11-36-21
Promoting a spirit of cooperation among inmates and between the inmate body and the Administration